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E: 15 August 1970

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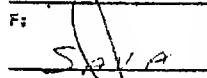
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CITE DIRECTOR

SAIGON

15 17 44Z AUG 70

GAC TAD CIC EFH 059863

JMA JFR MCB POO

ENH MCE TAW JKL

(1) PJR JES

D E

## 1. CURRENT NON PROGRESS OF GVN'S BASIC ECONOMIC QUOTE

LOI CADRE UNQUOTE HAS BEEN PRINCIPAL TOPIC AT LAST TWO

SULLIVAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS. AS YOU KNOW AND HAVE REPORTED IN DETAIL, ENABLING ACT IS STALLED IN SENATE WHICH MOST UNLIKELY TO DO ANYTHING WITH IT UNTIL FALL, AFTER ELECTIONS. TOPIC HAS GENERATED BRISK CABLE EXCHANGE, INCLUDING EMBTEL 12765 WHICH REPORTED BUNKER'S 8 AUGUST SESSION WITH THIEU. FYI ONLY, THAT CABLE GENERALLY READ IN WASHINGTON AS STRONG INDICATION, DESPITE ITS LEAD PARAGRAPH, THAT THIEU IN NO RUSH AND THAT THIEU WAS SIMPLY LISTENING POLITELY TO WHAT AMBASSADOR HAD TO SAY, NOT COMMITTING HIMSELF TO EARLY ACTION. IN THE JAUNDICED EYES OF MOST WASHINGTON OBSERVERS, THIEU'S ACTION PROMISES REPORTED

CONTINUED.....

GACarver, Jr.

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PAGE TWO

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IN THAT CABLE'S PARA 4 WERE ON A PAR WITH THE 1969 PROMISES TO MOVE QUOTE RIGHT AFTER TET UNQUOTE MENTIONED IN ITS PARAGRAPH 3.

2. OTHER PERTINENT TRAFFIC ON THIS PROBLEM INCLUDES STATE 130239, SAIGON 13003, STATE 132048 AND STATE 132902:

3. AT 14 AUGUST NSC VIETNAM COMMITTEE MEETING, SULLIVAN ASKED IF STATION COULD TAKE SOUNDINGS AND FORWARD ITS ESTIMATE OF THE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY THE GVN'S ACTING ON THESE ECONOMIC MATTERS BY DECREE RATHER THAN WAITING FOR LEGISLATIVE SANCTION. IN THE ABOVE CITED STATE 132902, DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ASKED EMBASSY'S OPINION ON THIEU'S LEGAL AUTHORITY BUT (AGAIN FYI ONLY) UNANIMOUS VIEW OF COMMITTEE WAS THAT ESTIMATE OF POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF MOVING BY DECREE COULD BE MUCH BETTER DONE BY STATION, WHOSE FEEL FOR LOCAL POLITICAL PULSE IS HELD IN VERY HIGH REGARD BY OUR COLLEAGUES DOWNTOWN. WE AVOIDED COMMITTING YOU TO ANY DEADLINE BUT WOULD

CONTINUED.....

RELEASING OFFICER

GACarver, Jr.

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APPRECIATE AS EARLY A RESPONSE AS IS FEASIBLE.

END OF MESSAGE

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**COORDINATING OFFICERS**

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George A. Carver, Jr.

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